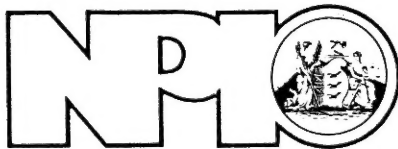


NEWARK  
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City Hall, 920 Broad Street, Room 214  
Newark, New Jersey 07102  
(201) 733-8004  
Pamela E. Goldstein, Director

### Press Release:

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 1988

FOR RELEASE, SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1988

PLEASE CONTACT: PAM GOLDSTEIN (201) 733-6368

The City of Newark has begun a \$2.1 million overhaul of its major downtown parks.

Renovations have already begun on the city's oldest open space, Military Park, where close to \$1 million is being spent on such items as storm drainage, earthwork, sidewalks and walkways, the sprinkler system and landscaping.

Similar work will soon begin in Washington and Lincoln Parks.

Mayor Sharpe James pointed out, "Newark has one of the most outstanding urban park systems in the nation. Especially noteworthy are the parks in our Central Business District, where outstanding landscaping and sculpture by world renown artists has attracted tourists and business travelers from around the country."

The facelift of Washington Park, he said, is the result of an agreement between the City and the Downtown Parks Committee, a group of corporate entities organized to upgrade the appearance of the downtown parks.

James said that Newark had agreed to make capital improvements at Washington Park in return for assurance from the Parks Committee that they would maintain them.

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PARKS AD 1

Phase I of Washington Park's renovation was completed last year with the assistance of the Parks Committee.

The second phase will begin July 18 and will cover peripheral improvements such as sidewalk improvements and additional landscaping, according to Alvin Zach, director of the Department of Engineering.

The major work at Military and Lincoln Parks entails the installation of an irrigation system, which will enable the City to provide sufficient water to maintain the totally renovated green areas, said Zach.

Military Park is the second largest municipal park in Newark, consisting of six acres in the center of the Central Business District.

Improvements to all the parks should be completed and the open space ready for use by the public by January, 1989, according to James Brown, assistant city architect. Costs for renovations in the other parks include \$451,863 for Washington Park and \$666,442 for Lincoln Park.

The City of Newark has over 40 parks and squares totalling 39 acres.